

# Specimens of extinct and endangered birds in the collections of The Manchester Museum, The University of Manchester, UK

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Listings of museum holdings are of particular importance in ensuring that collections are accessible to researchers (Adams *et al.* 2003). Here, the holdings of extinct and endangered birds in The Manchester Museum, UK, are detailed. Criteria for inclusion were species listed by Adams *et al.* (2003), their list being derived from information contained in BirdLife International (2000). This list contains all species considered to have become extinct since 1500 or which are endangered or vulnerable due to very small populations, or declining and with a very small range (see Adams *et al.* 2003 for definitions). Species categorised as Vulnerable because of a small range, but which are currently relatively numerous are excluded. Several British museums have already published their holdings of extinct and endangered birds (Howes 1969, Benson 1972, Fisher 1981, Knox & Walters 1994), but criteria for inclusion have varied, thus these lists are not readily comparable. The Manchester Museum is committed to ensuring that its collections are used for the maximum possible benefit, both now and in the long term, and as such welcomes enquiries of all kinds, from professionals and amateurs.

## Collections

The museum's collections were formed around those of the Manchester Natural History Society (1821–68), which were transferred to Owens College (now The University of Manchester) and housed in the present, purpose-built museum since 1888. The nucleus was added to piecemeal, most notably by the addition of the bird skin collection of Henry Eeles Dresser (1838–1915), of c.12,000 skins. This collection consists almost entirely of Palearctic birds and formed the basis for Dresser's monumental *History of the birds of Europe* (1871–81, supplement 1895), begun with R. B. Sharpe. Dresser's skin collection was purchased by J. P. Thomasson, in 1899, for the peppercorn sum of £1,000 and donated to Owens College; Dresser's egg collection (c.4,000 lots) was purchased by the family of J. P. Thomasson and donated to the museum for a similar sum, although it had been housed at the museum since 1912. The museum also received a large donation of birds from the British Museum (Natural History), in 1895, and a small but highly significant collection of Hawaiian birds from the Royal Society and Joint Committee for the Zoology of the Sandwich Islands, via Cambridge University Museum of Zoology, in 1900. The total bird collections comprise 15,000 skins plus c.2,000 mounts, 500 lots of skeletal material and 12,000 sets of eggs, of over 3,000 species.

## Species entries

Taxonomy follows Adams *et al.* (2003), which in turn is based on that in BirdLife International (2000). For each species, the number of specimens, together with information on locality, provenance and the museum accession number is presented. Previous collectors' field numbers are included in brackets after the collector's name. Skins are of adults unless otherwise stated.

The following abbreviations are used:

BM(NH)	British Museum (Natural History)
coll.	collected by
D	Henry Eeles Dresser (1838–1915)
ex	unsexed specimen
leg.	received from
purch.	purchased from
MNHS	Manchester Natural History Society (1821–68)
ni	no information
RCZSI	Royal Society and Joint Committee for the Zoology of the Sandwich Islands
[ ]	collection of

## EXTINCT SPECIES

### Haematopodidae

Canary Islands Oystercatcher *Haematopus meadewaldoi*

Skins: ♂, Jandia, Fuerteventura, Canary Islands, 20/4/1888, [D, leg. R Gomez] B.9162; ♀, Jandia, Fuerteventura, Canary Islands, 6/5/1889, [D, leg. R Gomez] B.9163.

NB these specimens are not listed in Vaurie (1965).

### Alcidae

Great Auk *Pinguinus impennis*

Partial skeletons: 2 humeri, 2 tarsi, furcula, synsacrum, skull, leg. F Nicholson 1907, B.4757.

### Raphidae

Dodo *Raphus cucullatus*

Partial skeletons: 14 bone fragments, leg. Boyd Dawkins (ex Richmond Mus.) 1904, B.4656; tarsometatarsus, leg. Boyd Dawkins (ex Richmond Mus.) 1919, BB.3534.

Casts: 2 (casts of head, foot), taken from specimens in Oxford Univ. Mus. Nat. Hist., leg. Boyd Dawkins 1919, BB.3532 BB.3530 respectively; 1 (tarsometatarsus and 4 digits), leg. Boyd Dawkins (ex Richmond Mus.) 1919, BB.3531; casts of tibia and tarsometatarsus, leg. Boyd Dawkins 1919, BB.3533 BB.3534.

**Columbidae**Passenger Pigeon *Ectopistes migratorius*

Skins: ♂♀, Toronto, Canada, coll. J Morley /4/1875, [L E Mather] BB.6973 BB.6974; 1 ex (mounted), BB.3523.

Eggs: 2, ni, [Barber] BB.8063.12; 1 (cracked), ni, BB.5470.

**Psittacidae**Carolina Parakeet *Conuropsis carolinensis*

Skins: 1 ex, Enterprise, Florida, coll. J Morley /2/1875, [L E Mather] BB.7113.

Paradise Parrot *Psephotus pulcherrimus*

Skins: 2 ♂♂ (study skin and ex mount), Gatton, leg. A W W B Brown 1889, B.455 B.456; 2 ♂♂ (mounted), ni, [MNHS?] BB.4706.

**Pachycephalinae**South Island Piopio *Turnagra capensis*

Skins: 2 ex (mount and ex mount), South Island, New Zealand, leg. E Melland, BB.1278 BB.1279.

**Drepanidinae**'Akiāloa *Akiāloa obscura*

Skins: ♂, Kau, Hawaii, Hawaiian Islands, coll. R C L Perkins /6/1895 (no. 522), [RSZSI] B.7394.

Kauai 'Akiāloa *Akiāloa stejnegeri*

Skins: ?, Kaholuamano, Kauai, Hawaiian Islands, coll. R C L Perkins /10/1895 (no. 666), [RSZSI] B.3314.

Kakawahie *Paroreomyza flammea*

Skins: ♂, Molokai, Hawaiian Islands, coll. R C L Perkins /5/1893 (no. 185), [RSZSI] B.3303.

Kona Grosbeak *Psittirostra kona*

Skins: ♀, Kona, 4,000 feet, Hawaii, coll. R C L Perkins 2/8/1892 (no. 580), [RSZSI] B.7400.

Greater 'Amakihi *Viridonia sagittirostris*

Skins: ♀, Hilo, 2,000 feet, Hawaii, coll. R C L Perkins /1/1896 (no. 536), [RSZSI] B.3320.

**Callaeidae**Huia *Heteralocha acutirostris*

Skins: ♂♀ (mounted), New Zealand, purch. J H Fleming 1898, B.2227 B.2228.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES****Phalacrocoracidae**

New Zealand King Shag *Phalacrocorax carunculatus*

Eggs: 1 (cracked), Cirhh, New Zealand, [D, purch. Stoate sale] BB.5660.4004.

**Threskiornithidae**

Northern Bald Ibis *Geronticus eremita*

Skins: 2 ♂♂, Birecik, Euphrates Valley, coll. C G Danford 20/2/1879, [D] B.9894 B.9895.

Eggs: 1, 'Algier', coll. Major Locke, [D] BB.5660.1888.

Black-faced Spoonbill *Platalea minor*

Partial skeletons: 1 ex (skull), BB.5294.

**Anatidae**

Hawaiian Goose *Branta sandvicensis*

Skins: 1 ex (mounted), ni, BB.4501; ♀, Slimbridge, 21/5/1960, BB.8161.

**Accipitridae**

Spanish Imperial Eagle *Aquila adalberti*

Skins: ♂, near Madrid, Spain, coll. M de la Torre 1866–67, [D] B.10383; ♀, Seville, Spain, coll. Sanchez 24/10/1870, [D] B.10385; ♂, Seville, Spain, coll. Sanchez 13/11/1870, [D] B.10384; 1 ex, Hivondrana, near Burgos, Spain, coll. Starkey /6/1889, [D] B.10387; 1 ex, Seville, Spain, coll. A Ruiz, [D] B.10388.

Eggs: 2, Pinal de Anarcazar, coll. Lord Lilford 24/3/1873, [D] BB.5660.1596; 1, near Seville, Spain, coll. Lord Lilford 22/3/1874, [D] BB.5660.1594; 1, near Seville, Spain, coll. Lord Lilford 24/3/1874, [D] BB.5660.1593; 1, Coto Doñana, coll. Lord Lilford /4/1874, [D] BB.5660.1595.

**Scolopacidae**

Eskimo Curlew *Numenius borealis*

Skins: 1 ex, Texas, coll. A L Heermann 1861, [D] B.9395; ♂, Toronto, Canada, coll. J S Morley /6/1877, [L E Mather] BB.6972.

Slender-billed Curlew *Numenius tenuirostris*

Skins: 2 ♂♂, Malta market, coll. C A Wright 9/4/1864, [D] B.9379 B.9380 respectively; 1 ex, Morocco, coll. Capt. S G Reid 23/12/1881, [D] B.9382; 1 ex (beak damaged), 'southern Europe', [D, leg. Verreaux] B.9381.

Eggs: 1, Tara, Siberia, coll. V E Ushakov /5/1909, [D, leg. S A Buturlin] BB.5660.2539 (NB this may well be the only extant egg of the species).

**Recurvirostridae**

Black Stilt *Himantopus novaezelandiae*

Eggs: 2, New Zealand, coll. 22/12/1884, [Holdsworth] BB.7283.209.

**Psittacidae**

Kakapo *Strigops habroptilus*

Skins: 1 ex (mounted), Lake Te Anau, South Island, New Zealand, leg. E Melland, BB.1261; 1 (ex mount), ni, BB.4716; 1 ex, leg. A W W Brown, B.2555; 1 ex, ni, B.935; 1 ex, ni, BB.4717.

Complete skeletons: 1 ex (mounted), sounds on west coast of New Zealand, coll. 7/10/1882, leg. A W W Brown B.2237.

Eggs: 1, New Zealand, leg. E Melland 25/1/1898, BB.1326.

**Trochilidae**

Black-breasted Puffleg *Eriocnemis nigrivestis*

Skins: 2 ♂♂, north Ecuador, [BM(NH)], leg. J Gould, one specimen BM(NH) accession no. 57.4.20.3] B.1606.

**Picidae**

Ivory-billed Woodpecker *Campephilus principalis*

Skins: ♂♀ (ex mounts), 'Weekiva', Florida, coll. J S Morley 18/1876, [L E Mather] BB.8793.1 BB.8793.2 respectively.

**Cotingidae**

Kinglet *Calyptura calyptura cristata*

Skins: 2 ♂♂ (ex mounts), south-east Brazil, pre-1873, [MNHS] B.6327 B.6328.

**Turdinae**

Oloma'o *Myadestes lanaiensis*

Skins: ♂, Molokai, Hawaiian Islands, coll. R C L Perkins 9/9/1893, [RSZSI] B.3315.

**Drepanidinae**

Maui Parrotbill *Pseudonestor xanthophrys*

Skins: ♀, 5,000 feet, Haleakala, Maui, Hawaiian Islands, coll. R C L Perkins (no. 819), [RSZSI] B.7399.

Maui Nukupu'u *Hemignathus lucidus affinis*

Skins: ♂, Haleakala, 5,000 feet, Maui, Hawaiian Islands, coll. R C L Perkins 15/1896 (no. 838), [RSZSI] B.3306.

Kauai Nukupu'u *Hemignathus lucidus hanapepe*

Skins: ♂, Kaholuamano, Kauai, Hawaiian Islands, coll. R C L Perkins /10/1895 (no. 689), [RSZSI] B.3306.

'Akikiki *Oreomystis bairdi*

Skins: ♂, Kaholuamano, Kauai, Hawaiian Islands, coll. R C L Perkins /10/1895 (no. 765), [RSZSI] B.3311.

**Fringillidae**Azores Bullfinch *Pyrrhula murina*

Skins: ♂♀, São Miguel, Azores, coll. F D Godman /4/1865, [D] BB.2859 BB.2860 (syntypes of *P. murina*); 1 ex, Azores, leg. BM(NH), B.3052 (possible syntype of *P. murina*).

**Callaeidae**Kokako *Callaeas cinerea*

subspecies *wilsoni* (North Island Kokako)

Skins: 1 ex (ex mount), [North Island] New Zealand, pre-1873, [MNHS] B.8211.

subspecies *cinerea* (South Island Kokako)

Skins: 1 ex, Lake Teanau, South Island, New Zealand, leg. E Melland, BB.1262.

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